

Program Endorsement

Department of the Navy, Tactical Aircraft Programs (Dec. 9 1999)



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
PROGRAM EXECUTIVE OFFICER
TACTICAL AIRCRAFT PROGRAMS
47123 BUSE ROAD, UNIT # IPT
PATUXENT RIVER, MD 20670-1547

IN REPLY REFER TO

Ser PMA265/1088
9 Dec 99

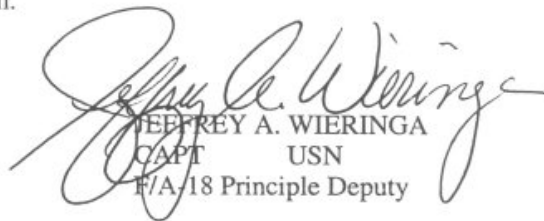
From: Program Executive Officer, Tactical Aircraft Programs (PMA265)
To: Director, Manufacturing Technology, Office of Naval Research Industrial
Programs Department, Attn: Mr. Steve Linder, Code 361
Ballston Centre Tower One, Room 633, 800 North Quincy Street
Arlington, VA 22217-5660

Subj: MANTECH SUPPORT OF THE NAVY F/A-E/F PROGRAM

Ref: (a) CECMT Project 92-01 Advanced Fiber Placement
(b) CECMT Project 95-10 Enhanced Production Processes
(c) CECMT Project 99-02 Productionization of Ceramic Matrix Composites

1. I would like to thank you for the support that your office has given us in developing the next generation of Navy Fighter/Attack aircraft - the F/A-18E/F. The US Navy Center of Excellence for Composites Manufacturing Technology (CECMT) projects referenced above are contributing significantly to the development of this aircraft. The benefits provided by these Manufacturing Technology programs are invaluable to meeting the weight, cost, and survivability objectives that have been established.

2. The partnership of the Navy's CECMT, Great Lakes Composites Consortium, and Industry has been instrumental in fielding the F/A-18E/F with the most modern technologies available today. As a result of this focus on technology development, we are confident that we will produce cost-effective weapon systems that can survive in the battlefield of the next millennium.


JEFFREY A. WIERINGA
CAPT USN
F/A-18 Principle Deputy